

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAMASC 02582 061429Z

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-06 COME-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 /030 W

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O R 061410Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1896

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 2582

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: BTRA SY

SUBJ: MID-AMERICA TRADE AND INVESTMENT MISSION

REF: A. TEHRAN 9430; B. TEHRAN 9429

1. GREATLY APPRECIATE EFFORTS OF TEHRAN OFFICERS AND DEPUTY SECRETARY VIA JAMES INGERSOLL TO PERSUADE MID-AMERICA GROUP TO INCREASE ITS REPRESENTATION IN DAMASCUS. WE CERTAINLY AGREE WITH BRIGGS AND MINER THAT WE DID NOT EXPECT ALL MEMBERS TO VISIT SYRIA. IT REALLY IS A QUESTION OF RELATIVE NUMBERS AND WE THOUGHT FIVE OUT OF 23 WAS LOW, PARTICULARLY SINCE BRIGGS PROVIDED CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WITH FULL LIST, POINTING OUT NOT ALL MEMBERS WOULD BE ABLE TO COME.

2. REF A SCHEDULE IS FORCING US TO COMPRESS AND REARRANGE PREVIOUSLY PLANNED NOV 8 TO 9 SCHEDULE TO NOV 7, WITH OVERLAP ON NOV 8 AND 9. UNFORTUNATELY WE STILL HAVE NO CLEAR IDEA OF WHO WILL BE HERE WHEN. APPRECIATE TEHRAN RESPONDING NIACT IMMEDIATE IN RESPONSE TO FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

A. PARA 3, REF A: WHICH SIX PLAN TO STAY THROUGH NOV 8 AND WHICH THREE TO REMAIN?

B. WILL AIRCRAFT REMAIN OVERNIGHT NOV 7 AS IS IMPLIED?

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C. BEIRUT AND TEHRAN: PROVIDE ANY FURTHER CONFIRMATION RE

PARA 5, REF A, VISITORS (MR AND MRS LINDGREN, MR GIESSEN, MR AND MRS HEHMEYERS, AND MR LARENZ--HE IS NOT ON OUR MID-AMERICA LIST, WHO IS HE?). WHAT IS BEIRUT CAB ETD NOV 7 AND ETA DAMASCUS?

3. ECONOFF WRIGHT WILL BE AT AIRPORT AT 0900, NOV 7 TO MEET ESMARK JET AND MISSION MEMBERS, ALONG WITH REP OF CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. WE THEN WILL RETURN TO EMBASSY FOR SHORT ECONOMIC BRIEFING AND ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING PRIOR TO INDIVIDUAL APPOINTMENTS. GEORGE Z KHOURY, ASST V-P, FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF CHICAGO (BEIRUT), AND EDOUARD GOZE, M.E. REP., CONTINENTAL ILLINOI NATIONAL BANK AND TRUST CO. OF CHICAGO, WILL JOIN GROUP AT EMBASSY.
MURPHY

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